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Transcript of Zackary Ellis Sanders

Date: February 12, 2020
Case: United States -v- Sanders

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1 | PROCEEDINGS

2 S.A. FORD: [inaudible]

3 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

4 S.A. FORD: So, like I said, my name is Chris
5 Ford. Special Agent with the FBI. This is Jeremy Obie,
6 also Special Agent with the FBI. Do you have any idea
7 why we're here?

8 MR. SANDERS: No.

9 S.A. OBIE: No idea whatsoever. Okay. First
10 off of this -- make sure got the right person before we
11 get going. Like I said, you don't have to -- you don't
12 have to talk to us. You're not under arrest.

13 We just want to get some questions from you
14 and we have just -- just some questions we just want to
15 talk to you and if you don't want to talk to us, that's
16 -- that's on you, but the quicker we get stuff done,
17 the quicker we can get out of your house and out your
18 way. But just want to start with just your name.

19 MR. SANDERS: I -- I don't think I want to
20 talk. I mean, you guys just barged into my house.

21 S.A. FORD: Well, we have a -- we have -- we
22 have a search warrant for your residence, so it was not

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1 like we just came here and -- oh, that's a nice house -
2 - we're just going to come in and walk in. So --

3 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

4 S.A. OBIE: Signed off by a federal judge.

5 MR. SANDERS: But I mean, I think you -- you
6 know what I'm saying. Like, you just barged in. I mean,
7 should I have a -- like a -- don't I need like a lawyer
8 or something before I answer?

9 S.A. OBIE: Well, you're not -- you're not
10 under arrest. You're not -- anything like that; right?
11 We're just here to sit down and talk to you. You can do
12 whatever you want to do, but we're not here to give you
13 legal advice either way -- but you're not under arrest.

14 MR. SANDERS: If I'm not under arrest why
15 would you --

16 S.A. OBIE: Because we have a -- we have a
17 search warrant. That's --

18 MR. SANDERS: What does that mean?

19 S.A. OBIE: So a search warrant means that we
20 -- we're given the legal right by a federal judge,
21 which was approved through many au- -- many
22 prosecutors, supervisors, etc. They had to read all

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1 through the, you know, probable cause of why we're
2 here.

3 And then at the end all be all is the federal
4 judge. And that federal judge basically says, yes, I
5 agree with everything and every other stamp of approval
6 that's been on this -- I'm going to sign this.

7 Therefore, that gives us reason to come in
8 here and look in your house for a certain contraband,
9 etc. And in that, so there's -- there's multiple ways
10 to be able to conduct a search warrant.

11 Given that we are who we are, we try to do it
12 with a little bit more respect; right? When it comes to
13 -- we didn't knock down your door, we knocked, we rung
14 your -- rang the doorbell.

15 We have knocked down doors in the past because
16 people wouldn't cooperate -- they wouldn't come to the
17 door; right?

18 The only reason why at the top of the steps
19 you were yelling through the door; right? Our training;
20 right? We don't know what's on the other side of that
21 door. So --

22 MR. SANDERS: Yeah. I -- I mean, I -- I

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1 understand -- I watch the tv shows. Yeah. I know you're

2 --

3 S.A. OBIE: Right. Right. So -- so it's no ill
4 intent. No --

5 MR. SANDERS: Yeah. Well, I mean, the guy with
6 the cop shows already outside filming out of the room
7 when he was shouting -- don't fucking move --

8 S.A. FORD: Right.

9 MR. SANDERS: Might've been a little --

10 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

11 MR. SANDERS: A little power hungry.

12 S.A. OBIE: That's --

13 MR. SANDERS: With his gun out.

14 S.A. OBIE: I -- I --

15 MR. SANDERS: That really freaked me out.

16 S.A. OBIE: Think that is probably is
17 [inaudible] with that. Yeah. But as you saw, I came up
18 right behind him.

19 MR. SANDERS: Yes. The rest of you were
20 censored.

21 S.A. FORD: [laughing]

22 S.A. OBIE: Came up right behind him, you

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1 know, we went and found your pants. You were open with
2 us and there was a knife in your pants, etc.; right? So
3 we checked, it, went through it, got you off your
4 knees, sat you down, calmed you down; right?

5 MR. SANDERS: Yes.

6 S.A. OBIE: So basically all we're trying to
7 do right now is just talk.

8 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

9 S.A. OBIE: Right? So the faster we can talk,
10 the faster we can get to the -- the bottom of the
11 truth, the sooner we get out.

12 S.A. FORD: Right. And then like, they're
13 going to -- everybody's -- people are going to talk to
14 your parents as well. So your mom and your father --
15 and your father and your mother as well. So not just
16 you, that's going to be, you know, people going to talk
17 to you. So other people are going to be talking to as
18 well, but --

19 MR. SANDERS: Okay. I can't have my mom in
20 here with me?

21 S.A. FORD: Nah, nah, no. Because we want it -
22 - because we want to get like your story. We don't want

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1 her to have like an influence on your story and vice
2 versa.

3 S.A. OBIE: Right.

4 S.A. FORD: But that's, you know, so -- oh,
5 man.

6 MR. SANDERS: Careful.

7 S.A. FORD: Yeah. That was about to be really
8 bad. About to be really bad.

9 MR. SANDERS: Um, yeah. I mean, I feel,
10 though, if any of these questions are like leading to
11 like incriminating to any thorough -- any like law
12 breaking, I should have --

13 S.A. OBIE: Right.

14 MR. SANDERS: A lawyer with me.

15 S.A. OBIE: And that's -- that's completely
16 your choice; right. So --

17 MR. SANDERS: I mean, I don't know what the
18 questions are, but like, if any of it like is related
19 to doing anything wrong. Obviously, I feel like I
20 should have the advice of a lawyer.

21 S.A. FORD: That's -- we -- we can't give you
22 legal advice.

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1 MR. SANDERS: Depending on what the questions
2 are.

3 S.A. OBIE: Yeah. We can't give you legal
4 advice, but if you feel like at some point you just
5 want to stop and that's fine; right? We're -- we're not
6 here to, you know, force you to do what -- anything;
7 right? This is just us having a conversation.

8 S.A. FORD: Mm-hmm.

9 S.A. OBIE: At the end of the day; right? So -
10 -

11 MR. SANDERS: Yeah. But you understand my
12 concern.

13 S.A. OBIE: I -- I understand. I'd be in the
14 exact same situation if --

15 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

16 S.A. OBIE: You know, I was on the outside.

17 S.A. FORD: And -- and our purpose here is --
18 is not to make you uncomfortable or anything. We just
19 want -- we just have questions and I mean, this is
20 something that we do all the time.

21 MR. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

22 S.A. FORD: And we've had people in your

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1 position where they are completely oblivious to what's
2 going on. And after conversations, it makes sense to
3 them. And then clear -- everything's clear and then we
4 -- we roll out.

5 MR. SANDERS: I mean, I really don't know if
6 I'm answering any of this, but can I see a list of
7 questions or --

8 S.A. FORD: No. It's just --

9 MR. SANDERS: Stuff you're going to --

10 S.A. OBIE: [inaudible]

11 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

12 S.A. FORD: Unless you want to open my brain
13 and take my brain out and it projected on here
14 [laughing] other than -- I don't think -- I don't think
15 you want to do that.

16 MR. SANDERS: I mean, if -- if there's
17 something that I'm just going to, you know, if I feel
18 like any of it relates to -- I'm very uncomfortable
19 with probably answering anything --

20 S.A. FORD: Okay.

21 MR. SANDERS: But if you want to try asking
22 something or two, well --

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1 MR. SANDERS: I mean, still occasionally, but
2 I also like just got out of the hospital for a vision
3 issue.

4 S.A. FORD: Oh.

5 MR. SANDERS: So that was a little hard, but -
6 - been out for a bit.

7 S.A. FORD: Sorry about that.

8 MR. SANDERS: Thanks. But I have a food and
9 beverage business down here, which is something I
10 actually started technically in elementary school with
11 like a red flash, you guys saw that; right?

12 S.A. FORD: Yeah. It's taking a picture.

13 MR. SANDERS: I just wanted to make sure it's
14 not -- it's my eye just one of the bright flash --

15 S.A. FORD: Oh, okay.

16 MR. SANDERS: Dust in my eye --

17 S.A. FORD: Dust. Yeah.

18 MR. SANDERS: But, you know, I started
19 actually the -- yeah, I started really young with the
20 lemonade stand, but then I turned it into like a --
21 like a snow cone machine -- snow cones -- and then went
22 from there and bought some more equipment.

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1 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

2 S.A. FORD: I gave you the estimate you were
3 talking about proposals and all this --

4 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

5 S.A. FORD: I used to be -- I used to do IT
6 work --

7 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

8 S.A. FORD: And I just remember writing
9 proposals and just my little piece was so many
10 different pages and that just can't imagine all the
11 other stuff that you had to do. So congrats. That's --
12 that's good stuff.

13 MR. SANDERS: Thank you.

14 S.A. FORD: Now are you -- are you busy now?
15 Like how's it?

16 MR. SANDERS: I mean, right now I'm getting
17 ready for the season -- so the season start in March --

18 S.A. FORD: Okay.

19 MR. SANDERS: So like right now, like I just
20 finished posting, like hiring ads, you know, couple
21 hours before you guys got here.

22 S.A. FORD: Oh, man, early bird.

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1 MR. SANDERS: And then Facebook. Yeah. I was
2 just going to sleep so --

3 S.A. OBIE: Sounds like a true entrepreneur.

4 S.A. FORD: Yeah. Right. Yeah. That's true. It
5 is true.

6 MR. SANDERS: Go upstairs at like 4:00 a.m. So
7 yeah, so doing -- doing all that and then, you know,
8 getting -- getting everything ready just to go for new
9 buildings. So right now I'm getting all the equipment
10 in there and getting all the plumbing an electrical
11 done.

12 S.A. FORD: Wow. Man.

13 S.A. OBIE: So what -- what are you doing with
14 that building or whatever the building is?

15 MR. SANDERS: That one it's going to be a
16 concession stand. So, you know, I just finished getting
17 all the equipment, but now I've got to do all the water
18 connections, all the, you know, electrical connections,
19 all the --

20 S.A. OBIE: Seems like you see employees.

21 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

22 S.A. OBIE: That's what it seems like.

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1 something pound refrigerator --

2 S.A. FORD: Oof.

3 MR. SANDERS: By myself and I hurt my back.
4 And then like, I was in a lot of pain from that. So
5 hurt my back, but, you know, survived, even though I've
6 got like a couple like bulging discs that --

7 S.A. FORD: Ugh.

8 MR. SANDERS: I still need to see a specialist
9 about, but so there's that then I had to go out of town
10 for an annual conference and trade show. Then when I
11 got back, I got sick like end of November -- it was
12 kind of like a cold at first. But then it got worse --

13 S.A. FORD: Hmm.

14 MR. SANDERS: And then they said it was a
15 sinus infection, started taking some medicine for that,
16 and then there's very rare eye condition -- which they
17 still haven't figured out.

18 So then that was going on now through the
19 beginning of January. And then I was in the hospital
20 for like a week. Well, three days at first and then
21 took more tests.

22 And then was back in the hospital for a few

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1 days, then getting an IV and then just trying to get
2 back into getting all the old work caught up on. So
3 it's been -- it's been -- it's been rough.

4 S.A. OBIE: Okay.

5 S.A. FORD: Hey, real quick, Zack, we -- the
6 keys for your Jeep -- where are they at?

7 MR. SANDERS: They were on my pants. On my
8 keychain.

9 S.A. OBIE: Yeah. So they should be in that
10 room.

11 S.A. FORD: In his room?

12 S.A. OBIE: His -- his room.

13 S.A. FORD: Okay.

14 S.A. OBIE: I think somebody took them off the
15 pants -- if I remember.

16 S.A. FORD: Okay. The pants that you have on?

17 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

18 S.A. FORD: Okay.

19 MR. SANDERS: It was on the -- on the belt
20 there's a key ring with like 3,000 keys on it.

21 S.A. FORD: With bunch of keys. Okay.

22 S.A. OBIE: Should be like on the floor or on

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1 going to basically go through everything in your house.
2 And we don't want to go through every single piece of
3 media. So hard drives, thumb drives, computers,
4 laptops, phones -- we don't want to do all that.

5 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

6 S.A. FORD: So we just want to eliminate stuff
7 so we don't have to take -- we don't want to take all
8 your stuff.

9 MR. SANDERS: Sure.

10 S.A. FORD: So -- but if you're not truthful
11 with us, we're going to have to take all your stuff and
12 then that's potentially going to affect your business.

13 S.A. OBIE: W- -- he's -- he's --

14 S.A. FORD: Let me talk to him. So that's the
15 hypothetic -- so I'm asking you, I'm going to ask you
16 if you can give me -- so they found a laptop and a -- a
17 tablet under your bed.

18 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

19 S.A. FORD: Are you willing to give us the
20 password so we can just eliminate that so we don't take
21 it? Because they said there's one -- an iPad with like
22 six -- like a six digit password on there.

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1 MR. SANDERS: I mean, you're making me kind of

2 --

3 S.A. FORD: No. You -- you can say -- you
4 don't have to say, yeah. If you say no, we're going to
5 take it. So we -- I'm just trying to give you the
6 opportunity -- same with your phone.

7 If you just give me the log into your phone, I
8 can go in, I can clear it and s- -- you can keep your
9 phone, but if not, we're taking your phone, we're
10 taking all the devices in your house, unless you can be
11 like, nope, here's the password to this so we can keep
12 it here.

13 So it's up -- that completely up to you, but
14 it's -- we're going to take it regardless. Not
15 regardless, but if we'd be clear it, we're not going to
16 take it. Like, we don't want to take your parents'
17 stuff, we don't want to take your stuff, but that's on
18 you.

19 MR. SANDERS: What -- I mean, I guess -- I --
20 I just still wondering why you guys are here.

21 S.A. FORD: Okay. You have no -- you have
22 absolutely no idea? Because even -- even a couple of

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1 times I caught you saying, I have s- -- ah, never mind,
2 but you would stop saying certain things. So --

3 MR. SANDERS: What -- all right.

4 S.A. FORD: So I can -- just listen -- just
5 listen to me. I just want --

6 MR. SANDERS: I'm just trying to phrase, s- --

7 S.A. FORD: No. I don't want you to phrase.
8 There's no -- I want you to be honest with me, because
9 I'm being honest with you. I -- and I don't need you to
10 like, try to -- I just want you to just be straight up
11 with me.

12 S.A. OBIE: True. Yeah.

13 S.A. FORD: Because they've already talked to
14 your parents, so your parents know what's going on, and
15 I'm trying to give you opportunity to clear your name,
16 because I'll be honest with you -- and like, we tried
17 to give you time to talk --

18 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

19 S.A. FORD: And there's certain things I can
20 tell that you are keeping from us, but we're going to
21 find that end of the day. So --

22 MR. SANDERS: I --

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1 S.A. FORD: Listen, listen, listen
2 Zack, listen. So like I said, we went in your room and
3 the per- -- the person that knows the best about your
4 room is you.

5 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

6 S.A. FORD: So is there a reason why you're
7 kind of thinking about your computer or your tablet? Is
8 there a reason? Is there a reason why we shouldn't go
9 in there?

10 MR. SANDERS: I mean, there's -- I guess the
11 main reason is like, there's some like nude photos of
12 myself.

13 S.A. FORD: Okay.

14 MR. SANDERS: Of some, you know, guys I've
15 been with.

16 S.A. FORD: Okay.

17 MR. SANDERS: I --

18 S.A. FORD: But do you realize that we're all
19 -- we're all adults here; right? We don't care about
20 that. That's not going to -- that's not a reason for
21 you not to give us your passwords.

22 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

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1 S.A. FORD: I know -- I know it -- it can be
2 uncomfortable, but we're trying to clear your name.

3 MR. SANDERS: I guess -- and I don't
4 understand like what it is you're like look- -- like I
5 don't -- I don't know why you guys are here.

6 S.A. FORD: Okay.

7 MR. SANDERS: So I'm like nervous about like
8 the whole situation.

9 S.A. FORD: Okay.

10 MR. SANDERS: Like, I don't -- I --

11 S.A. FORD: So -- let me -- okay.

12 MR. SANDERS: I'm --

13 S.A. FORD: I'm going to ask you one question.

14 MR. SANDERS: Let me just say one thing.

15 S.A. FORD: Okay.

16 MR. SANDERS: Because I just want to explain.

17 S.A. FORD: Okay.

18 MR. SANDERS: Like -- I'm -- I'd say like
19 pretty guarded with information --

20 S.A. FORD: Okay.

21 MR. SANDERS: Because people have tried to
22 like use things against me in the past --

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1 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

2 S.A. FORD: Dark net, Tor investigations. And
3 we have your Cox IP address came back to a Tor website
4 that we know fac- -- facilitates child pornography.

5 So before you -- before you even say anything,
6 think before you -- think, before you speak; okay? So
7 your IP address came back to a website that was
8 advertising child pornography.

9 And I asked you -- we just asked you have you
10 been -- I mean, you've been on -- you said you've been
11 on Tor.

12 MR. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

13 S.A. FORD: You haven't been on there for
14 drugs. You haven't been on there for fake IDs. You were
15 just browsing. So where -- where else would you have
16 gone on Tor?

17 S.A. OBIE: Be honest.

18 MR. SANDERS: I don't really --

19 S.A. FORD: Okay.

20 MR. SANDERS: I -- every time you make a noise
21 or give me like a look like that --

22 S.A. FORD: Yeah. Because I don't --

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1 MR. SANDERS: Make me very uncomfortable.

2 S.A. FORD: No, that's fine. Because you know
3 what? Because I feel like the wheel -- I could see the
4 wheels spinning. Like I said, we've been doing this for
5 a while. I can see the wheels spinning in your head and
6 you know -- you know why we're here. Because I even
7 asked you -- I can -- I saw that.

8 Why would we find a thumb drive with child
9 porn in your room? And -- before you speak, this is the
10 opportunity for you to be just completely honest with
11 us, because once we walk out those doors and if -- like
12 --

13 S.A. OBIE: Just get done.

14 S.A. FORD: We take all your stuff before you
15 speak --

16 MR. SANDERS: Sure.

17 S.A. FORD: We take all your stuff and you're
18 not being truthful with us, it's going to be -- it's --
19 it's an issue.

20 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

21 S.A. FORD: So I want to give you the
22 opportunity now --

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1 MR. SANDERS: Yep.

2 S.A. FORD: To kind of clear your name so we
3 can get in and get out and then we can work -- and work
4 with you and, you know, do all that.

5 MR. SANDERS: You make me a little bit
6 nervous. Can I have -- can I speak to my mother for one
7 moment or have her in here just as a witness?

8 S.A. OBIE: Witness to what? We have -- it's -
9 - it's right here.

10 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

11 S.A. OBIE: There's -- there's no need --
12 you're an adult; correct?

13 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

14 S.A. OBIE: Right. She's busy in her own
15 interview right now. So all we're asking from you is
16 the truth.

17 MR. SANDERS: Well --

18 S.A. OBIE: We're not asking --

19 MR. SANDERS: I mean, you're making claims and
20 you -- you just said that you said me answering these
21 questions would be -- would help me.

22 S.A. FORD: It -- it very well could help. It

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1 can help you a lot. Actually. If you be -- if you're
2 truthful with us --

3 MR. SANDERS: You -- you couldn't just tell me
4 how so because it would make me feel --

5 S.A. FORD: Because this -- this is --

6 MR. SANDERS: I don't know how this --

7 S.A. FORD: Okay. I'm going to tell you, Zack
8 --

9 MR. SANDERS: This is kind of scary.

10 S.A. FORD: This is what is going to happen.
11 So we have a search warrant for your residence.

12 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

13 S.A. FORD: So for the search warrant -- and
14 that can show you this -- the search warrant, it covers
15 all of the electronic devices. So if I wanted to, I can
16 take whatever -- this router, I can take anything in
17 his house. That's what I'm talking about.

18 MR. SANDERS: I -- I -- I understand that.

19 S.A. FORD: And that would completely disturb
20 everything in the house and not do not want to do that.
21 That's not my intention. So after we do the search
22 warrant, we go back and we do a -- a forensic check.

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1 So basically we look and see what's on the
2 devices. And if you're like truthful with us and help
3 us and say, hey, yeah, this stuff in my room -- we can
4 just focus on your room so we don't have to take your
5 routers. We don't have to take all your stuff.

6 So -- and after that, we talked to our
7 prosecutor and say, hey, this is -- you know, this guy
8 has been truthful with us. He's been willing to work
9 with us. He's answering our questions. Can we help him
10 out?

11 But if not, and if you with information from
12 us, then that's when we're like, well, he wasn't really
13 cooperative and I'm not going to say like, it's going
14 to help your -- this is going to help or not help, but
15 the more information we have, the better we can focus
16 on stuff so we can get in and get out and then get your
17 life going and be done with it.

18 But if you withhold information, we're taking
19 everything and I don't want to take everything.

20 S.A. OBIE: And also just -- just to be
21 perfectly clear; right? So it is a crime to lie to a
22 federal agent like -- that -- that is actual crime.

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1 MR. SANDERS: I haven't -- I haven't lied
2 about anything.

3 S.A. FORD: Well --

4 S.A. OBIE: Like I said, it is a crime. So
5 we're asking you to be honest; right?

6 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

7 S.A. OBIE: Crime can give jail time if needed
8 -- if need be; right? This is why we're saying honesty
9 is key because you don't want that on top of
10 everything.

11 MR. SANDERS: So I -- I haven't lied about --

12 S.A. OBIE: I mean, we -- we realize that.

13 MR. SANDERS: Okay. Because he said he thought
14 I was --

15 S.A. FORD: No. No. I -- no, no, I was --

16 MR. SANDERS: Not being truthful.

17 S.A. OBIE: So --

18 S.A. FORD: No.

19 S.A. OBIE: So we're giving you the stage
20 right now. We're giving you the stage. We have -- we
21 have the thumb drive; right? We already had a dumb
22 drive and you know which thumb drive that is. So the

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1 stage is yours.

2 MR. SANDERS: Could I just speak to my mom for
3 one moment?

4 S.A. OBIE: Your mom is an interview right
5 now.

6 MR. SANDERS: Okay. Okay. I need -- can't they
7 pause for --

8 S.A. OBIE: Why -- why do you -- why do you
9 need to speak to your mom right now.

10 MR. SANDERS: I -- we're just -- we're just --

11 S.A. OBIE: She's -- she's the one doing it?
12 Like does she go on Tor and do all the?

13 S.A. FORD: And --

14 MR. SANDERS: I don't think she knows how to
15 use, to be honest.

16 S.A. FORD: Right. So do you -- do you want
17 your parents to know to the extent -- I mean, they're
18 going to know why -- they're probably asking, why are
19 you guys in my house?

20 MR. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

21 S.A. FORD: So they're going to know to an
22 extent, but once again, you're an adult, so you don't

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1 have to tell them everything. That's --

2 MR. SANDERS: And just like we're close and I
3 usually like talk to her before, like --

4 S.A. OBIE: Before what?

5 MR. SANDERS: Like making the decisions about
6 --

7 S.A. OBIE: About truth? About honesty?

8 MR. SANDERS: I have not, not been honest,
9 like I've been fully honest with every single thing
10 I've said.

11 S.A. OBIE: Right. And we're asking you a
12 question and we're putting it to you.

13 MR. SANDERS: But you're -- well, I guess what
14 I'm -- what I'm saying here is you are making a claim
15 that you found something.

16 S.A. FORD: No this --

17 S.A. OBIE: There's no claim --

18 S.A. FORD: There's no claim. It's fact.

19 MR. SANDERS: Okay. Yeah, but I mean, like,
20 you're saying you f- -- you're saying you found
21 something.

22 S.A. FORD: We found something. We found a

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1 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

2 S.A. FORD: Because I don't want to, like I
3 said --

4 MR. SANDERS: I -- yeah, you're right.

5 S.A. FORD: I don't want to take all your
6 stuff. And at this point I feel like I'm thinking this
7 is going to go with me unless --

8 MR. SANDERS: What I -- what I -- what I --
9 what I mean by help you is like, make this go faster.
10 But that helps me by keeping this -- like, I fully
11 understand that you're trying to help me as well. Like,
12 I appreciate --

13 S.A. FORD: Do you want to give me -- do you
14 want to give me the passwords to your -- to your laptop
15 and your iPad so I can just clear that so you can have
16 that and your phone or you want me to just take it?

17 MR. SANDERS: That's what I'd like to -- can I
18 just --

19 S.A. FORD: N- -- it's your priv- -- it's your
20 stuff.

21 MR. SANDERS: I understand. But I'm very
22 stressed right now and I haven't even slept since

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1 yesterday.

2 S.A. FORD: I -- I can't --

3 MR. SANDERS: As I was trying to explain -- I
4 was, like, woken up like this.

5 S.A. OBIE: Right.

6 S.A. FORD: It would just --

7 MR. SANDERS: Could I -- could I please --
8 could I just --

9 S.A. OBIE: Let me go get her real quick.

10 MR. SANDERS: Thank you.

11 S.A. OBIE: All right?

12 MR. SANDERS: Thank you. I -- just like, I
13 usually like -- like take like a good amount of time to
14 make decisions.

15 S.A. FORD: Okay.

16 MR. SANDERS: So this is just really --

17 S.A. FORD: This is --

18 MR. SANDERS: For me.

19 S.A. FORD: This is -- I -- I get it and this
20 is the golden opportunity for you while we're here
21 because when that -- when we leave, that's --

22 MR. SANDERS: I understand. I really -- like,

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1 I really --

2 S.A. FORD: Okay.

3 MR. SANDERS: I want to be honest and open,
4 but also --

5 S.A. FORD: I want you to be honest and open.

6 MR. SANDERS: F- -- and I haven't lied about
7 anything.

8 S.A. FORD: Okay.

9 MR. SANDERS: Everything I said's been a
10 hundred percent truthful.

11 S.A. FORD: Okay.

12 MR. SANDERS: It's just -- you're scaring me a
13 little.

14 I don't -- and my intention is not to scare
15 you. My intention is have a conversation and I don't
16 want to -- like, we gave you an opportunity just to
17 talk to us. And I don't -- like I said, I don't think
18 you lied to me, I hope you didn't lie to me.

19 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

20 S.A. FORD: I don't like to be lied to, and I
21 don't want to lie to you. I don't want --

22 MR. SANDERS: Well, you said that it seemed

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1 S.A. FORD: Mm-hmm.

2 MRS. SANDERS: On the premises.

3 S.A. FORD: Yep.

4 MRS. SANDERS: And if you can leave it because
5 I explained, I'm a psychologist --

6 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

7 MRS. SANDERS: I -- all my stuff that I need
8 for my office --

9 S.A. FORD: Yeah. And that is not our
10 intention to take everything out of your house.

11 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah.

12 S.A. FORD: Do not want to do that.

13 MRS. SANDERS: But if they can preview and
14 clear things they leave it and if they can't, then they
15 take it with them.

16 MR. SANDERS: So -- yeah.

17 MRS. SANDERS: So I think -- I said to dad, I
18 mean, they -- maybe -- maybe I watch too much TV, but
19 that maybe we should get a lawyer rather than
20 continuing to -- because if they're saying they found
21 something bad, then probably we should get a lawyer
22 because that's just bizarre.

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1 MR. SANDERS: But I just don't know -- could I
2 speak to her in -- in private?

3 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah.

4 S.A. FORD: Hmm-mm.

5 MRS. SANDERS: Really? I was allowed to speak
6 to my husband.

7 S.A. FORD: Yeah. But --

8 MRS. SANDERS: I can talk to him.

9 S.A. FORD: Yeah. But we were talking to him.

10 MR. SANDERS: Okay. Can you just be right
11 outside the door? I mean, I'm -- I can't go anywhere.
12 Like what -- seriously like is -- what --

13 S.A. FORD: You want to --

14 MR. SANDERS: What difference does it possibly
15 make?

16 MRS. SANDERS: We've both had medical issues.

17 S.A. FORD: I understand.

18 MRS. SANDERS: We've both been hospitalized in
19 the last couple of months.

20 S.A. FORD: I -- yeah.

21 MRS. SANDERS: So this is --

22 S.A. OBIE: I guess, ma'am --

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1 MRS. SANDERS: Very --

2 S.A. OBIE: What -- so see it from our
3 perspective is -- so if we have something -- child
4 pornography, for instance, they're real victims on the
5 other side.

6 MRS. SANDERS: Mm-hmm. Of course.

7 S.A. OBIE: Right. And our job is to save
8 those victims --

9 MRS. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

10 S.A. OBIE: First by identifying those
11 victims; you know? So that's what we do day in, day
12 out, we save kids.

13 MRS. SANDERS: Right.

14 S.A. OBIE: And so that is why we're here.
15 That is why we're trying to be as cordial and open as
16 possible.

17 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah. I totally get that.

18 S.A. OBIE: And why also, we're not trying to
19 take everything because that's just a burden on
20 everybody, especially because both of you have your
21 businesses here.

22 MRS. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

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1 S.A. OBIE: So it's -- all three of you
2 really.

3 MRS. SANDERS: Well, I mean, I have -- I have
4 my own office.

5 S.A. OBIE: Okay.

6 MRS. SANDERS: But I know what you're saying.

7 S.A. OBIE: But, so basically from that that's
8 -- so all we asked for it was if he doesn't want us to
9 take the laptop and the tablet that was tucked
10 underneath his bed, just to provide a passcode so we
11 can clear it, go through it, or whatever. Up until this
12 point he's been, you know, we -- we talked about --

13 MRS. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

14 S.A. OBIE: We talked about his history, his
15 concession stand --

16 MRS. SANDERS: Mm-hmm.

17 S.A. OBIE: Lemonade stand back in the day --

18 S.A. FORD: Mm-hmm.

19 S.A. OBIE: All that stuff; right? And he's
20 been up front and we asked him to, you know, just talk
21 about where he went on Tor.

22 Because he already said that he had Tor on his

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1 laptop, which is -- I don't know if you know what Tor
2 is -- so -- so Tor is -- is like a anonymous browsing
3 software, etc. However, with certain technologies, we
4 traced it back to this residence. You don't know what
5 Tor is?

6 MRS. SANDERS: I --

7 S.A. OBIE: Pretty sure your husband doesn't
8 know what Tor is. And he said that to Tor was on his
9 laptop. So all we're asking is where he navigated from.
10 And then what -- and then we'll kind of go from there.

11 So, I mean, the decision is yours, but I'm
12 just trying to give you our perspective on -- on where
13 we're coming from.

14 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah. No. I totally -- I
15 totally empathize and I understand that. But if you're
16 saying that you found something, then I feel like the
17 prudent thing to do is to probably --

18 MR. SANDERS: Can I just talk to --

19 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah. Okay.

20 MR. SANDERS: Maybe like five -- like --

21 MRS. SANDERS: Maybe we can work this out and
22 make it easier.

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1 MRS. SANDERS: [whispering, inaudible]

2 MR. SANDERS: So you think that -- I mean,
3 that's reasonable; right?

4 MRS. SANDERS: Yes.

5 MR. SANDERS: That's so simple. [whispering,
6 inaudible] okay. Okay. Okay.

7 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah.

8 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

9 MRS. SANDERS: Because -- because --

10 MR. SANDERS: Yeah. Okay. Tell him I'll see
11 him. Could I -- can I have a Coke? Can I ask him if I
12 can get a Coke?

13 MRS. SANDERS: Can you bring him a soda and do
14 you want --

15 MR. SANDERS: Yeah. So I'll -- I'll give you
16 it. I'll tell you what -- what you want.

17 S.A. FORD: Okay.

18 MR. SANDERS: Can I grab a Coke from the
19 fridge?

20 S.A. FORD: What kind do you want?

21 MR. SANDERS: Because I'm -- I'm very thirsty.

22 S.A. FORD: [inaudible]

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1 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah.

2 S.A. FORD: A Coke. Okay. I didn't know if you
3 guys had any like a different kind --

4 MRS. SANDERS: No. Is it in a bottle, Zack?

5 MR. SANDERS: You know the glass bottles?

6 MRS. SANDERS: Yeah.

7 MR. SANDERS: If that's okay with them.

8 S.A. OBIE: Yeah. We'll get it for you.

9 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

10 S.A. OBIE: Be right back.

11 MR. SANDERS: Thank you.

12 MRS. SANDERS: You're welcome.

13 MR. SANDERS: Okay. Thanks.

14 MRS. SANDERS: Okay.

15 MR. SANDERS: Do you want me to finish showing
16 you on the --

17 S.A. FORD: Oh

18 MR. SANDERS: Telegram -- sorry, I don't --

19 S.A. FORD: Yeah.

20 MR. SANDERS: You're not which -- who was I
21 talking to you.

22 S.A. FORD: You're talking to me. Yeah. About

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1 ago, like middle school, early high school, very long
2 time ago.

3 S.A. FORD: Hey, Zack -- Zack --

4 MR. SANDERS: At some point.

5 S.A. FORD: Let me pause you real quick,

6 MR. SANDERS: Okay.

7 S.A. FORD: Remember --

8 MR. SANDERS: Because I was getting onto the
9 Tor stuff, but okay.

10 S.A. FORD: No. That's -- that's fine. And I
11 appreciate it. But let's go back to being honest; okay?

12 MR. SANDERS: Back to being?

13 S.A. FORD: Yes.

14 MR. SANDERS: I haven't been hon-

15 S.A. FORD: Yeah. So you told us you were on
16 Kik when you were 14?

17 MR. SANDERS: Yeah.

18 S.A. FORD: Okay. I just saw on there that you
19 were active on -- so unless you had a different
20 account. Did you have a different account or if you --
21 have you always had this acc- --

22 MR. SANDERS: As I just said, it might have

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1 stuff at?

2 MR. SANDERS: I believe it all will be on that
3 flash drive.

4 S.A. OBIE: What about the --

5 S.A. FORD: Okay.

6 MR. SANDERS: To -- to the -- to my best
7 recollection.

8 S.A. FORD: Okay.

9 S.A. OBIE: Password?

10 MR. SANDERS: Can --

11 S.A. OBIE: I can't let you type it in because
12 don't know if you're going to manipulate. So that's
13 just from stuff we did in the past.

14 S.A. FORD: We try --

15 S.A. OBIE: We're just trying to cover our
16 asses. So --

17 MR. SANDERS: Okay. And just -- just a
18 question.

19 S.A. OBIE: Yes.

20 MR. SANDERS: Not saying I'm going to try --
21 I'm just curious. If I refuse to give like a password
22 to get into any of this --

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1 S.A. OBIE: Mm-hmm.

2 MR. SANDERS: What -- what happens?

3 S.A. FORD: We take it.

4 S.A. OBIE: Take it.

5 MR. SANDERS: So you take it --

6 S.A. FORD: And it -- you might not see it for
7 a -- a long time.

8 MR. SANDERS: Okay. And then --

9 S.A. FORD: Even -- just so even if we take it
10 and we clear it -- like there's nothing on there, you
11 still won't get it for --

12 MR. SANDERS: But like -- I have -- my
13 question is if you take it and there's like a password.
14 Do you -- do you got like --

15 S.A. OBIE: We have tech- --

16 S.A. FORD: Oh, so you -- you want to know
17 about the FBI secrets; huh?

18 MR. SANDERS: I was just curious.

19 S.A. FORD: Just so you know --

20 MR. SANDERS: This is my chance. At least give
21 me -- give me something. I'm being honest with you,
22 give me something.

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1 You're going to clear it manually.

2 But if there's a lot of content -- a lot of
3 years, a lot of time put into that phone, we have to
4 actually look into the architecture of the phone in
5 order to be able to extract the true information from
6 it.

7 We're not going to be able to do that
8 manually. It takes devices, which also takes hours in
9 order to like process. It's almost like the internet;
10 right?

11 MR. SANDERS: And then --

12 S.A. OBIE: Something occasionally --

13 MR. SANDERS: Aren't you guys probably like a
14 little backed up with stuff to do because --

15 S.A. OBIE: Not actually, because every single
16 person -- every single person here, they have their
17 sets of cases; right? And so this is priority right
18 now, this is the focus right now. That's just a general
19 explanation of --

20 MR. SANDERS: I just need my phone.

21 S.A. OBIE: Why? Which is why I was surprised
22 you didn't have your business backed up on anything.

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8 above 252 pages contain a full, true and correct
9 transcription of the tape-recording that I received
10 regarding the event listed on the caption on page 1.

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12 I further declare that I have no interest in
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15 December 7, 2020

16



17

18

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19

20 (339280, Statement in re: USA v. Sanders, 2-12-20)

21

22